

SRA News

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

SRA continues to be a thriving part of our community, and our membership remains stable with new families purchasing memberships as they become available. This stability has allowed us to move forward with the pool house construction, which is on schedule to be completed in early May 2017.

To support this construction and other costs, the SRA Board of Directors has reviewed and approved a membership dues and teams fee increase to offset costs in renovation change orders, pool whitecoat, tennis court repair, utilities, and accommodations for the new pool house, as well as increased costs for swim, dive, and tennis. Annual membership dues increase this year from \$595 to \$645, and team fees increase from \$110 per child to \$140 per child; from \$220 to \$250 for two children; and a maximum payment from \$280 to \$310 per family. The initiation fee for new memberships is now \$200 (formerly \$100). Compared to neighboring pools, SRA remains a great value. The SRA Board also adopted a 2017 operations budget based on our membership dues and teams fee increase. As always, we continue to work at fundraising, controlling costs, being good stewards of SRA's assets, and maintaining our financial stability.

We are well on our way to finalizing the SRA teams for 2017. In January our Operations Committee interviewed and filled our lifeguard and staff positions for the summer. We have a great roster of guards, coaches, and staff for the upcoming season, with many familiar faces returning to SRA. My sincere thanks to Steve Schlacter, VP, and SRA's Operations Committee members Jody Nyalko and Sarah Lang, and Facilities Manager Mark Murray. Once again, Mr. Murray will continue to provide his seasoned leadership for SRA this summer.

As you know, SRA is a nonprofit member corporation that needs your help to run the various swim and dive meets, tennis matches, family nights, concession sales, and social events all summer. *(continued on next page)*

General Membership Meeting Tuesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. Fort Hunt ES

SRA's spring meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Fort Hunt Elementary School on Tuesday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. Please join us as we discuss plans for the upcoming season.

DUES NOTICE: Dues are \$645 for 2017; due April 1.

Dues cover SRA's operating funds for the season, so please pay on time. A check may be mailed to SRA Business Manager at 8832 Camfield Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308, or dropped in the SRA box located at that address. It may be easiest to just bring your check to the March meeting!

Payment in full is due by April 1.

Late fees will be charged as follows:

- Payment in full received between April 2 and April 15: \$64.50 late fee.
- After April 15, \$129 late fee, and suspension of membership privileges until paid.
- The postmark on the envelope will determine the payment date.
- Late fees are nonrefundable and may not be waived, as per SRA by-laws. There are no exceptions.
- Those wishing to sell their membership must pay dues by April 1. When your membership is sold, dues will be refunded on a pro-rated basis.
- Empty Nester applicants must pay dues by April 1. See page 3 for more information about this program.

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I encourage you to pitch in and help — it's imperative to our success. In addition to swim timers and dive judges, there are several volunteer positions that need to be filled, including tennis, social events, concessions, cooks, fundraising, sponsorships, and pre-season and post-season clean-up days, to name a few. Please visit our website at www.stratfordrec.org and contact me at president@stratfordrec.org to volunteer your time or if you ever have any questions.

I sincerely look forward to meeting and working with the SRA community this year! Please remember to join us at 7:30 pm for our SRA General Membership meeting on Tuesday, March 21, at Fort Hunt Elementary School. We have a full agenda, including membership voting on leveraging up to \$300,000 in additional SRA equity for various items such as a new parking lot and repairs to the pavilion and Shark Shack. We need you there in person or by proxy (see attached proxy document for instructions) to support and help pass this important membership vote. See you then and Go Sharks!

STRATFORD SHARKS

Swim, Dive & Tennis Team News

It's a great time to be a Stratford Shark! If you want more information about joining the swim, dive and/or tennis teams, here's the contact information. The teams are open to children of all skill levels.

- Swim Team – Ken and Janice Rivera, straswim@gmail.com
- Dive Team – Peggy Dinkel, stratforddive@yahoo.com
- Tennis Team – Dave Sadlier, dave@sadlier.net (Junior program); Lorrie Rezendez, lorretired@aol.com and Jen Bridgman, jlkrempin@gmail.com (Women's program)

Team Fees

Each family is asked to pay \$140 per child (which covers participation in up to three teams), \$250 for two children, with a maximum payment of \$310 per family. Further details on sign-ups will be on the web at www.stratfordrec.org and in the May newsletter. Sign up in person at SRA on Super Sunday, May 21, 2-4 pm.

LIFEGUARD NEWS

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training

SRA will once again host the annual American Red Cross Lifeguard Training course in May (designed to accommodate both public and private school schedules) under the experienced direction of Mark Murray.

Friday, May 19: 4 – 9 pm

Saturday, May 20: 9 am – 9 pm

Sunday, May 21: 10 am – 9 pm

Course requirements:

- Student must be 15 years old on or before the final scheduled session of this course;
- Swim 300 yards continuously demonstrating breath control and rhythmic breathing;
- Tread water for 2 minutes using only legs; and
- Complete a timed event within 1:40 – swim 20 yards, surface dive to 7-10 feet, retrieve a 10-pound object, and swim 20 yards on your back to starting point and exit the water without the use of a ladder or steps

Cost: \$339. Please make check payable to: MVPS, LLC (Mount Vernon Pool Service, LLC)

To register, mail your check to:

MVPS, LLC

3736 Mary Evelyn Way

Alexandria, VA 22309

The registration form is available on our website, www.stratfordrec.org, or you may [access the Lifeguard Training registration form directly here](#).

- Terms: Students must be available for all class times and sessions; no absence is permissible.
- Equipment needed: swim suit, several towels, goggles, swim cap or hair tie (if long hair), warm clothing (sweats), pen and pencil, notebook.
- To pass this course: Attend and participate in all class sessions; demonstrate competency in all required skills and activities; demonstrate competency in all required final rescue skill scenarios; pass both the Section 1 – CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid; and Section 2 – Lifeguarding Skills, final written exams with minimum grades of 80%.
- Fee will be reimbursed by SRA if a guard successfully completes the course and one full season at SRA.

The Lifeguard Review Course, required for all returning guards, will be held on Super Sunday, May 21, 12-6pm at SRA.

Certified Pool Operators (CPO) Prep Course

For lifeguards who are at least 16 years of age and wish to be certified as a pool operator, there will be a prep course and test held at SRA on Saturday, May 20, 12-3 pm. The course prepares students for the Pool Operators Exam required by Northern Virginia localities; the test will be given immediately after the course or at an agreed-upon time between the instructor and the student. This class is not graded; it preps students for the county certified pool operator exam. Be sure to bring warm clothing (sweatshirt, sweat pants), pen/pencil, and a notebook. The registration form is available on our website, www.stratfordrec.org, or you may access the pool ops form directly [here](#). The cost is \$175, payable to MVPS, LLC. To register, mail your check to:

MVPS, LLC
3736 Mary Evelyn Way
Alexandria, VA 22309

Junior Guard Program

SRA's Junior Guard program offers teens age 13 and 14 a head start on the lifeguard certification program. Introducing the skills needed to be a full-time guard, the program is divided into 12 lessons and a final exam over five weeks. Look for more details on this program on Super Sunday, May 21, at SRA.

SUPER SUNDAY MAY 21, 2-4 pm at SRA

This year's Super Sunday is May 21, 2-4 pm at SRA. Learn more about the swim, dive, and tennis teams, meet the coaches, fill out registration forms, order team suits, and get printed summer schedules. Super Sunday also showcases our social events for the summer. It's a great opportunity to save the dates (and prepay, if you like) for our festive and friendly neighborhood summer fêtes.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

It's time to put in your three hours of sweat equity to get the pool and grounds ready for the new season and to earn your guest tickets. 2017 clean up dates are May 6-7, 13, and 20-21; two shifts per day, 9-12 and 12-3. We also have one midweek work session set for Thursday, May 18, from 10 am to 1 pm.

MEMBERSHIP SALES

We have sold 8 new memberships this year, and we currently have 3 more memberships in the queue to sell. If you are moving or don't use the pool as much as you would like, then please fill out a sell form (download from the website) and attach your pool certificate to it. Drop off or mail them to 8903 Camfield Drive as soon as possible. Until your membership sells you are responsible for paying your dues of \$645 by April 1. If your membership sells by July 15, you will receive a FULL refund of your dues (\$645) and share (\$540). After July 15, the refund is (\$322.50) and (\$540).

EMPTY NESTERS

Under the by-laws, SRA is unable to lease pool memberships until *all* full memberships sell. SRA currently has 15 temporary memberships to lease. Until your membership leases you are responsible for the annual dues of \$645. Once your membership is leased, you will receive a refund of \$645 (if leased before July 15) plus 20 guest passes. If leased after July 15, you will receive a refund of \$322.50 plus 10 guest passes.

EXPLORING NEW ACTIVITIES at SRA

We are exploring member interest in bringing some extra fun activities to the SRA grounds this summer. In the past, we've offered fitness classes to the membership for a nominal fee. These classes not only take advantage of the convenient neighborhood location, but also give members another way to connect. Please click or follow this link to give us your input:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3P6G9X7>

Instructors must be self-insured with liability insurance, of which they're required to provide evidence. If classes are offered, they will be scheduled with no or limited impact on the rest of the pool's operations. Instructors will collect the class fees, and return one-third of those fees to SRA.

If you have any questions, suggestions or instructor recommendations, please contact Sarah Lang at slangblang@gmail.com.

2017 Board and General Membership Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:30 pm

SRA General Membership Meeting at Fort Hunt ES -
March 21

SRA Board Meeting at SRA - April 18

SRA Board Meeting at SRA - May 16

SRA Board Meeting at SRA - June 20

SRA General Membership Meeting at SRA - July 18

SRA Board Meeting at SRA - August 15

SRA members may submit written comments or proposals for discussion at these meetings. The Board will notify a member within seven (7) calendar days of a Board meeting if the issue or proposal is an agenda item for that Board meeting.

Members may attend Board meetings.

2017 SRA Board of Directors

President, David Fleischman,
president@stratfordrec.org

Vice President, Steve Schlacter, vp@stratfordrec.org

Secretary, Amy Kirner, secretary@stratfordrec.org

Treasurer, John Burke, treasurer@stratfordrec.org

At Large, JC Schaub, jcschaub@verizon.net

At Large/Membership, Kristen Culver,
membership@stratfordrec.org

At Large, Ben Bridgman, brbridgman@gmail.com

At Large, Sarah Lang, slangblang@gmail.com

At Large, Dan Offringa, dan@maximumoffringa.com

Business Manager

Ellen Haas, business-manager@stratfordrec.org

EMAIL ADDRESSES

We are collecting email addresses to save on mailing costs. If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically (and enable instant access to clickable information), please email your name and email address(es) to Ellen Haas, Business Manager, at business-manager@stratfordrec.org

Stratford Recreation Association
8832 Camfield Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED